

Model Tobacco-Free Policy for Schools

Purpose

According to the U.S. Surgeon General's Report of 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency of 1992, the South Carolina Clean Indoor Air Act of 1990, and the Federal Pro-Children Act of 1994, tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke (environmental tobacco smoke) are hazardous to the health of human beings, especially children. The _____ School District Board of Education reaffirms that one of the best methods of instruction is one that is provided within a 100% tobacco-free, smoke-free environment.

Goals

The goal of this policy is to provide a 100% tobacco-free, smoke-free environment for all students, staff, and visitors within all of its facilities, vehicles, grounds and at all sponsored events. This goal will be achieved by:

- Exhibiting healthy behavior for all students, staff, visitors, and the entire community;
- Utilizing proven and effective science-based tobacco use prevention curricula; and
- Providing access to cessation counseling or referral services for all students and staff.

Procedures

As a school district within the State of South Carolina, we will:

- Prohibit the use and/or possession of all tobacco products or paraphernalia including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, bidis, kreteks, smokeless tobacco and snuff **by all students, staff, and visitors.**
- Ensure that tobacco use prevention programs, as recommended by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services and the South Carolina Department of Education, are an integral part of its substance abuse prevention efforts.
- Provide and/or refer to cessation services separately for students and staff.
- Ensure that violations of the SC Youth Access to Tobacco Prevention Act of 2006 are communicated to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

Enforcement

The _____ School District will enforce this policy by determining appropriate disciplinary actions for violators (students, faculty, visitors). Actions may be inclusive of the following:

- Students: parent/administrator conferences, mandatory enrollment in a tobacco prevention education, monetary fines, community service, in-school suspension, out of school suspension, and suspension from extracurricular activities.
- Staff: verbal reprimands, written notification placed in personnel file, suspension, and mandatory enrollment in a tobacco education program or voluntary enrollment in a cessation program.
- Visitors: verbal requests to leave school property, forfeiture of any fee charged for admission, and prosecution for disorderly conduct after repeated offenses.

Education and Assistance

As a school-based institution, we will be responsible for utilizing proven and effective science-based tobacco use prevention curricula to educate all students and provide assistance and/or make appropriate cessation referrals.

Tobacco Industry Marketing or Sponsorship

The district will not accept any contributions or gifts, money or materials from the tobacco industry. This district will not participate in any type of services that are funded by the tobacco industry. In addition, any gear, paraphernalia, clothing, etc., that advertises tobacco use or tobacco products will not be allowed on school grounds or in the possession of faculty, staff or students at school-sponsored events.